ABSTRACT

        A disk drive has timing marks (TMs) on the disk, that
are chosen to reduce the probability of misidentification
of a TM in the presence of read errors. The disk drive
5   searches for TMs within a fixed TM search window which
extends past the TM on the disk. A TM preferably
maximizes the post-shift sliding distance for m post-shifts
of the TM pattern, where m corresponds to the TM search
window boundary. In this manner, the probability of a
10   misidentification of the TM due to a post-shift having a
small distance from the TM pattern is reduced. The TM
pattern also provides pre-shift error resistance.